

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the following claims. A marked up version of the claims is attached in Appendix 1. Please add new claims 51-56.

32  
42. (Amended) ~~An assembly as set forth in Claim 41, including first and second planetary gear sets driven by said first and second gear sets about said lateral axis of rotation.~~

47. (Amended) ~~An automotive vehicle drive unit assembly comprising:~~

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~~a first driving axle shaft;~~  
~~a second driving axle shaft, said first and second driving axle shafts being co-~~  
~~linear and defining an axis of rotation;~~  
~~a first wheel hub driven by said first driving axle shaft;~~  
~~a second wheel hub driven by said second driving axle shaft, said first and second~~  
~~wheel hubs driven about said axis of rotation, said first and second wheel hubs each including a~~  
~~common outer periphery about said axis of rotation;~~  
~~a first gear set for driving said first wheel hub;~~  
~~a second gear set for driving said second wheel hub; and~~  
~~a pair of electric motors including a single first electric motor mounted at a non-~~  
~~parallel angle relative to said axis of rotation of said first driving axle shaft for driving said first~~  
~~gear set and a single second electric motor mounted at a non-parallel angle relative to said axis of~~  
~~rotation of said second driving axle shaft for driving said second gear set independently from said~~  
~~first electric motor wherein one of said pair of electric motors is mounted at a 90 degree angle~~  
~~extending generally horizontally and forwardly relative to said axis of said first wheel hub and~~  
~~the other of said pair of electric motors is mounted at a 90 degree angle extending generally~~  
~~horizontally and rearwardly relative to said axis of said second wheel hub, said first and second~~  
~~electric motors being mounted at least partially within said common outer periphery.~~

51. (New) An assembly as set forth in Claim 23 including  
a first motor output shaft rotatable about said first longitudinal axis of rotation and a second motor output shaft rotatable about said second longitudinal axis of rotation;  
said first gear set including a first pinion gear driven by said first motor output shaft and mounted for rotation about said first longitudinal axis and a first ring gear driven by said first pinion gear about said lateral axis of rotation;  
said first planetary gear set including a first sun gear coupled for rotation with said first ring gear about said lateral axis of rotation;  
said second gear set including a second pinion gear driven by said second motor output shaft and mounted for rotation about said second longitudinal axis and a second ring gear driven by said second pinion gear about said lateral axis of rotation; and  
said second planetary gear set includes a second sun gear coupled for rotation with said second ring gear about said lateral axis of rotation.
52. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 51 wherein said first sun gear is directly coupled to said first ring gear and said second sun gear is directly coupled to said second ring gear.
53. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 51 wherein said first driving axle shaft is driven by said first ring gear and said first sun gear is driven by said first driving axle shaft and said second driving axle shaft is driven by said second ring gear and said second sun gear is driven by said second driving axle shaft.
54. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 51 wherein said first planetary gear set is positioned adjacent to said first motor output shaft and between said first ring gear and said first

driving axle shaft and wherein said second planetary gear set is positioned adjacent to said second motor output shaft and between said second ring gear and said second driving axle shaft.

55. (New) An assembly as set forth in claim 51 wherein said first planetary gear set is positioned adjacent to said first wheel hub at a distal end of said first driving axle shaft and said second planetary gear set is positioned adjacent to said second wheel hub at a distal end of said second driving axle shaft.

~~56. (New) A vehicle as set forth in claim 48 wherein said wheels define a common outer periphery with said electric motors being mounted at least partially within said common outer periphery.~~